



A dangerous occupation

The impact of 50 years of occupation on Palestinian workers



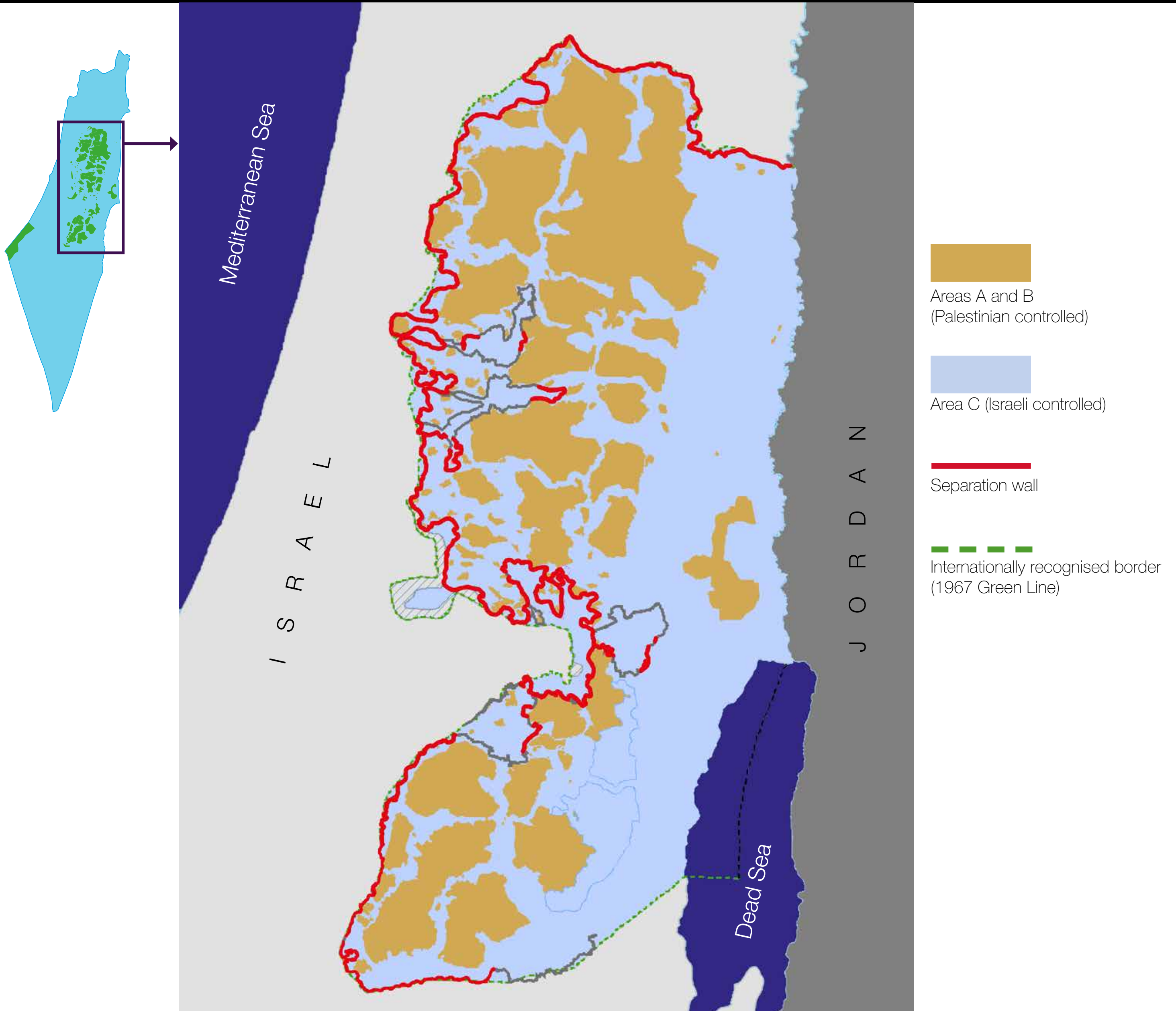
Activestills.org Photographer Anne Paq. 21.3.2015

A Palestinian works in the rubble of his home to make room for a shelter for his family in a destroyed quarter of Al Tuffah, east of Gaza City, following the Israeli bombing in 2014. Rebuilding materials are scarce due to restrictions imposed by Israel.



Activestills.org Photographer: Anne Paq 26.2.2012

Palestinians work on the beach near the village of As Siafa, northern Gaza. The fishing industry has been devastated by the six nautical mile restriction zone imposed by the Israeli military and a shortage of materials to repair boats and equipment.



Since 1967 the Israeli government has progressively colonised the West Bank. The fragmented Palestinian controlled Areas A and B are isolated by the illegal settlements and a network of settler-only roads, undermining any prospects of a viable Palestinian economy.



Activestills.org Photographer: Anne Paq 25.1.2013

A Palestinian worker farms his land next to the separation wall in Bethlehem. The barrier restricts Palestinian access to work, services and land, and 85% is illegal under international law.



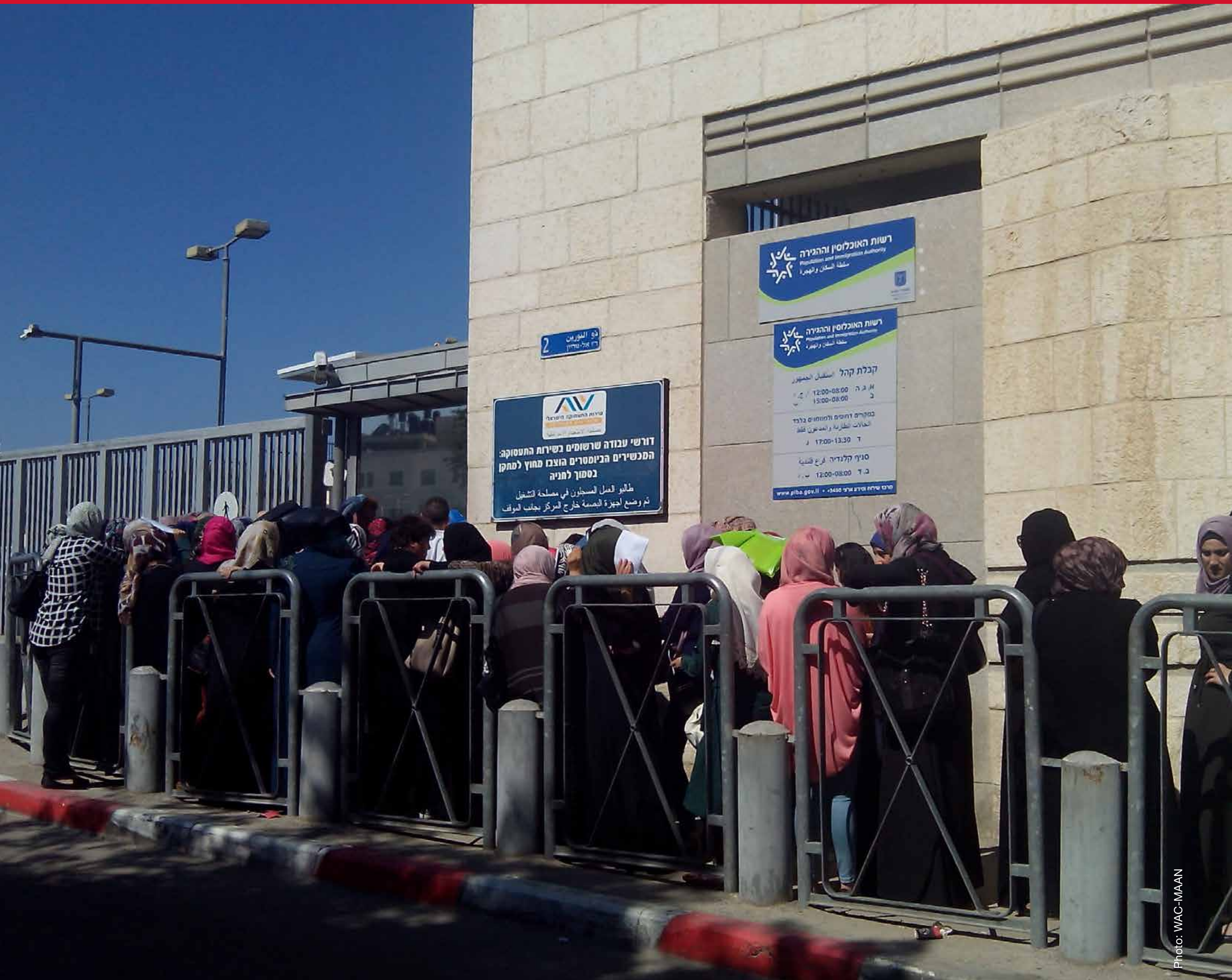
Activestills.org Photographer: Anne Paq 29.8.2009

A Palestinian woman is carried to an ambulance at Qalandiya checkpoint, outside East Jerusalem. Palestinian emergency patients suffer long delays as they are transferred between ambulances at checkpoints into East Jerusalem.



Activestills.org Photographer: Anne Paq 8.2.2017

Thousands of Palestinian workers endure long waits and humiliating treatment as they queue in 'the cage' from 3am each morning at the Bethlehem checkpoint to get to their work in Israel.



Palestinian women queue at the Employment Bureau in East Jerusalem. Palestinian residents from East Jerusalem should be able to access employment and income support but are often refused by the authorities. With UNISON's support WAC-MAAN is enabling women to organise and demand their right to work and social protection.



Activestills.org Photographer: Oren Ziv 30.8.2013

Vast settlements like Modi'in Illit dominate many parts of the West Bank. Palestinian workers within the settlements should be employed under Israeli labour law but thousands endure poor conditions and are paid less than the minimum wage.



UNISON 5.4.2016

The fertile Jordan Valley is dominated by large Israeli settlement farms, able to produce fruit and vegetables all year round. Palestinian agricultural workers are exploited by farm owners and labour brokers, with low pay and poor conditions in breach of Israeli law.



A Palestinian family home that was donated by the European Union after its demolition by Israeli authorities in the village of Umm al-Kheir, South Hebron Hills. 1,093 Palestinian homes and structures in the West Bank were demolished or seized in 2016 leaving hundreds of families homeless and destroying their livelihoods.



UNISON's International Development Fund has supported the trade union WAC-MAAN to organise Palestinian workers in the Israeli-run industrial zones in the West Bank. In February 2017 workers at the Zarfati Garage in Mishor Adumim won a four-year battle for trade union recognition.